



For Immediate Release

Easton, MD – October 19, 2022

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**Talbot County Council Meeting Highlights, Tuesday, October 18, 2022
(Special Legislative Day)**

These highlights only reflect the business items covered from the Council's approved agenda. To view the complete County Council meeting, please visit: Talbot County Meeting Videos - Talbot County, Maryland (www.talbotcountymd.gov).

Council members Callahan, Divilio, Leshner, and Price were in attendance. Council member Pack was absent.

County Manager's Report:

Board and Committee appointments:

- Talbot County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council – Mr. Stamp requested the appointment of Mary Lou Butler, Community Health Educator, Talbot County Health Department to the Talbot County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council. The request was unanimously approved by the Council.

Request from Department of Public Works – *Recommendation on Bid No. 20-13, TALBOT COUNTY REGION II (ST. MICHAELS) WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SLUDGE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS; BELT FILTER PRESS REPLACEMENT – ST. MICHAELS – TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND (Change Order Nos. 2 and 3)* – At the County Engineer's recommendation, the Council unanimously approved Change Order Nos. 2 and 3 for Bid No. 20-13 which increased the contract by \$62,496.10. Change Order No. 2 is a no-cost change order that increases the contract time by 60 days. Change Order No. 3 includes additional water piping, pump modifications and additional electrical work related to the pump modifications. The change orders increased the approved budget for the project by \$28,762.10, the sum of which will be charged to the repair and maintenance line items for the Region I and Region II sanitary districts.

Request from Department of Public Works – *Recommendation on Bid No. 22-11 – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – REGION II (ST. MICHAELS) SEWER SYSTEM SEWER EXTENSION – (RESOLUTION NO. 235) – PHASE 1 – REPLACEMENT OF ROYAL OAK PUMP STATION NO. 1* – At the County Engineer's recommendation, the Council unanimously rejected all four

bids submitted for Bid No. 22-11 as there were questions regarding the project scope related to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System, the land line/communications at the pump station and the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) / Women Business Enterprise (WBE) requirements for the project. Bid No. 22-11 will be re-bid.

Public Hearings:

A public hearing was held on Resolution No. 337, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SALE OF TWO CONTIGUOUS AND ADJACENT PARCELS OF UNIMPROVED REAL PROPERTY: 1) HAVING AN ADDRESS OF 112 S. MAIN STREET, TRAPPE, MARYLAND AND FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TAX MAP 301, PARCEL 1745, CONSISTING OF 4.318 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS; AND 2) HAVING AN ADDRESS OF MAIN STREET, TRAPPE, MARYLAND AND FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TAX MAP 301, PARCEL 1751, TO THE TOWN OF TRAPPE, A MARYLAND MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, FOR THE SUM OF ONE DOLLAR, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS which would authorize the sale of County owned parcels to the Town of Trappe for \$1.00. Mr. Thomas noted the Town of Trappe submitted a letter to the County Council in August 2022 requesting consideration for the sale of the parcels for a new town office. The public was invited to comment on the legislation. Lyndsey Ryan, attorney for the Town of Trappe, and Nick Newnam, President, Town of Trappe, outlined their request for the properties and stated that the current town office space is no longer sufficient for town business. Ms. Ryan further noted the Town Council's desire to have the town office remain in the downtown area and stated that the parcels are an ideal location. Council member Price questioned the provision included in the Developer's Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (DRRA) between the Town of Trappe and Trappe East Holdings Business Trust for the construction of a 3,000 s.f. Town Administrative Building. Preston Peper, Director, Talbot County Parks and Recreation, stated that his department currently maintains the property. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has reviewed the request and found that the properties are excess property as the parcels are no longer used for ballfields or active programming and recommends the sale of the property. There is a playground currently on one of the parcels and the Board has recommended a provision that the Town of Trappe be responsible for applying for a Community Parks and Playground grant through the State of Maryland in 2028 to replace the playground structure when it reaches the end of its lifespan. Ms. Price requested the assessed value of the property. The written record on Resolution No. 337 will remain open until Friday, October 21. Resolution No. 337 will be eligible for vote on October 25, 2022.

A public hearing was held on Bill No. 1526, AN EMERGENCY BILL TO AUTHORIZE A CAPITAL PROJECT FOR THE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF THE ICE RINK FLOOR AT THE TALBOT COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER AND TO AUTHORIZE AN INTER-PROJECT TRANSFER OF \$950,000 FROM THE APPROPRIATION APPROVED BY BILL NO. 1171 FOR THE EXTENSION OF WATER AND SEWER LINES TO THE TALBOT COMMUNITY CENTER TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT AUTHORIZED HEREUNDER which would authorize an inter-project transfer of \$950,000 from the capital project for the extension of water and sewer lines to the Talbot County Community Center to the capital project for the removal and replacement of the ice rink floor. Preston Peper, Director, Parks and Recreation briefed Council on the current status of the ice rink flooring which is over 30 years old and has failed due to leaks in the piping underneath the floor. The floor space is

approximately 17,000 s.f. and has over 11 miles of piping underneath it. A total replacement of the floor is recommended. The public was invited to testify on the bill. Dave Levasseur, President, Eastern Shore Hockey Association, thanked the Council for their efforts to expedite repairs to the ice rink. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Council moved Bill No. 1526 to third reader and unanimously approved the emergency bill with Council member Pack voting by absentee ballot.

Mr. Stamp requested Council approval to award a contract to American Arena, LLC in the sum of \$946,800 for the ice rink floor replacement and noted work is anticipated to be substantially completed within 90 days. American Arena, LLC is already under contract with the County through Bid No. 21-11, ice plant replacement. The contract award was unanimously approved by the Council.

The Council's next legislative meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.